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Utah State University, "USU Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, January 22, 2008" (2008).
Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Paper 95.
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USU FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 22, 2008 • 3:00 p.m.
Champ Hall Conference Room

Present: Provost Raymond Coward, Doug Ramsey, Byron Burnham, Daren Cornforth, Jake Gunther, Ed Heath, John Kras, Pat Lambert, Mike Parent, Adrie Roberts, Flora Shrode, and Andi McCabe

Excused: Brian Atwater, Steven Burr

Absent: Vince Wickwar

Invited Guest: Richard Cutler, Britt Fagerheim, Ronda Callister

Doug Ramsey called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2007

John Kras motioned to approve the December 10, 2007 minutes. Adrie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed with one minor change suggested by Daren Cornforth.

Announcements - Doug Ramsey

1. The next Brown Bag Lunch with the President is on February 11.

University Business

1. Provost Coward stated that the airport interviews for the HASS dean search is next weekend in Salt Lake City. There are seven candidates: five women and two men; five are sitting department heads, one is an institute director, and one is in a vice provost-like position.
2. During the week of February 4th through the 8th, the second candidate for the position of Dean and Executive Director of the Uintah Basin Regional Campus will visit for his campus interview. He will first go to Vernal and Roosevelt before coming to Logan.
3. The Utah legislative session has begun and President Albrecht will be in Salt Lake often over the next six weeks, which is why he was not able to attend today's meeting.

Information Items

1. **EPC Report** – Richard Cutler represented the EPC committee. The committee recommends a small change to general education requirements. Through an internal review, they discovered that USU is out of compliance with Regents policy regarding the number of general education credits. Our current minimum is 27, whereas the Regents policy states 30. Therefore, EPC recommends that students be required to take one additional 3-hour course outside their major from the list of designated General Education courses.

The next item was a proposal to establish a master degree of Music with an emphasis in Piano Performance and pedagogy.

The third recommendation was to suspend enrollment in the graduate certificate program in the Natural Resource and Environmental policy.

The last recommendation was to establish the School of Teacher Education and Leadership. If these last three recommendations were approved by the BFW, then this committee can move it forward to the Faculty Senate. If not, BFW would have to approve these with a written response before placing on the Senate agenda.

Mike Parent motioned to place the Education Policies Committee Report on the Consent Agenda item of the February 4, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting once BFW has approved the latter three recommendations. Doug Ramsey seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

1. **LEED Resolution** – Doug Ramsey started by stating that Larry Hipps is opposed to the terminology 'or equivalent to' in reference to USU requiring that all new buildings be designed and constructed to meet the LEED silver certification. John Kras motioned to place this resolution with the deletion of the word 'better' in paragraph #1 of the suggested actions on the Action Items agenda of the February Faculty Senate meeting. Daren Cornforth further explained that the cost of the certification from LEED mostly gets you the recognition; it does not provide inspectors to make sure you are following LEED procedures. Ed Heath seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1. **Faculty Parental Options** – Ronda Callister addressed the committee asking for consideration of increasing options for faculty parents. She stated that part-time tenure track faculty is not in code anywhere and recommended that the 405 code provide for part-time faculty to obtain tenure status by using equitable partial years of service in the equation. Provost Coward questioned if this was not addressed elsewhere in the code. Adrie Roberts motioned to defer this to PRPC to review the code with further clarification from the FDDE committee. Mike Parent seconded the motion, adding that FDDE could bring it back to the FSEC once more research has been completed. Motion failed with three in favor, four opposed, and one abstention.

The next item refers to faculty parental leaves of absence and modified duties with the birth/placement of a child, offering a release from teaching responsibilities during the semester that a child is born or adopted. There was no motion, but the committee suggested to Ronda that she take this back to FDDE to conduct more research of the code regarding post-tenure faculty.

2. **Proposed Code Change – Procedures Specific to the Tenure Process (405.7.2)** – Adrie Roberts brought forward a proposed change to addresses paragraph (5) of this code. The change proposes adding text that states "if a member of the committee convened by the Provost under this policy is also responsible for a separate evaluation and recommendation of a candidate under 405.7.2(4) as a dean, director or vice-president, then the evaluation and recommendation required under 405.7.2(4) will be made by the appropriate associate director, associate dean, or the associate vice-president". Provost Coward stated that when he convenes the committee and the list of candidates is made available to them, he asks if there are any conflicts with those on the list. If there are, then that committee member will recuse him or herself from reviewing that candidate. He also feels that this does need to be looked at because the President made an administrative decision two years ago and the code has not caught up with that decision. Another option is to remove the Vice President of Extension from the committee member list and add to it a faculty member who has a significant understanding and appreciation of the University's Extension mission. Mike Parent recommended that no action be taken. Provost Coward also reminded the committee of the newly-created ad-hoc committee chaired by Flora Shrode, which is addressing promotion and tenure code. Doug asked Flora to take this to her committee for recommendations to PRPC.

Key Issues and Action Items

1. **PRPC Items**
 - a. **Reasons for Non-Renewal 407.7.2 (2nd reading)** - Britt Fagerheim brought back revised code according to the suggestions made at the last Faculty Senate meeting. Ed Heath motioned to place this item on the Issues and Action Items agenda of the February 4, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting. Mike Parent seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.
 - b. **Membership; Alternates; Term; Vacancies 402.3 (1st reading)** – This was a charge to look at double representation. PRPC is proposing that code be added to clarify where multi-affiliation faculty are counted in the representation of the Faculty Senate, especially for those faculty members who serve Regional Campus and Distance Education. Ed Heath motioned to place this under Action Items on the February 4 Senate agenda. Mike Parent seconded the motion; motion carried with one abstention.

Adjournment

Doug Ramsey called for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Andi McCabe, Faculty Senate Executive Secretary, 797-1166